

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

REPORT NO. 

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SUBJECT Living Conditions in Tientsin

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REFERENCES

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1. On 21 September 1953, prices had risen in Tientsin, but wages had not increased. Prices of vegetables were slightly higher than they had been during the summer, and the price of meat had risen to JMP 6,800 per catty. A tram car operator was paid approximately 100 catties of millet per month, a male tram car conductor 60 catties, a female conductor 50 catties, and a tram car station clerk 40 catties.<sup>1</sup>
2. In October 1953, prices in Tientsin again rose. Pork was JMP 7,400 per catty. In September wine had been JMP 10,800 per bottle; in October wine was JMP 16,000 per bottle. The price of rice, approximately JMP 2,100 per catty, had not increased, but the quality of the rice was inferior to what it had been in September and was even worse than that of the rationed rice in Hong Kong.
3. By October 1953 approximately half of the unemployed in Tientsin had been sent to Chefoo by the authorities. They had written letters to their relatives in Tientsin saying that they were getting along well in Chefoo; but since they did not say what kind of work they were doing, their story was doubted, and anyone who could obtain a living in Tientsin otherwise did not dare to apply for work in Chefoo.

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1.  in May 1953, Chinese Communist office workers in Tientsin were receiving salaries of from 200 to 600 catties of millet per month.

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